

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS  
OF THE FARM LABOR ORGA-  
NIZING COMMITTEE

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to honor the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) and their historic achievements.

For more than 35 years, FLOC has represented the guest workers who labor in our fields and farms bringing food to our tables. They are striving to achieve the American dream, a good-paying job in a safe workplace and the ability to provide for their families. Something that everyone in America can understand.

Under the leadership of FLOC's president, Baldemar Velasquez, the organization has achieved historic gains—including the first labor agreement in U.S. history to cover guest workers. Other significant achievements include increasing workers wages, improving worker housing, and protection against harmful pesticides. FLOC's actions will provide a safer working environment for its members and a better product for the consumer.

Today, FLOC will open an office in Monterrey, Mexico, it's first outside the U.S. The office will help oversee the recruitment and transportation of guest workers. All of us have heard the nightmarish stories of coyotes smuggling workers across the border only to have the workers trapped in de-facto indentured servitude or perish in the unsafe crossing. FLOC has worked to bring workers to the U.S. legally, informing them of their rights as guest workers.

Without FLOC's assistance, so many workers would fall through the cracks. Today I celebrate FLOC's accomplishments and success. Their legacy is greater than the agreements signed. Their legacy is a workforce that is paid a living wage and laboring in a safe environment. Their legacy is hope.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF ATASCOSA COUNTY COMMIS-  
SIONER DAVID CABALLERO

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Atascosa County Commissioner David Caballero for undertaking a lifetime of distinguished public service.

Commissioner Caballero has followed in the footsteps of his father, who was once a long-serving Atascosa Constable, in seeking an elected position of leadership. After serving his first term, his tireless devotion to ensuring that Atascosa County continues to develop economically, creating more jobs for the constituents he serves, led him to pursue and win term of service as County Commissioner.

Most importantly, Commissioner Caballero has continued to hold the values of community, faith and family in the highest regard.

Nothing exemplifies this more than his committed participation with the Pleasanton Little League, St. Andrews Catholic Church of Pleasanton, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church of Leming, and the Verdi Community Center.

He has spearheaded and now hosts an Annual Easter Egg Hunt that serves as an excellent opportunity to draw the entire community of families together in his precinct. Commissioner Caballero most deserves recognition for choosing to be an agent for real change, focusing on making government smarter and serving his constituency while saving his County money.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand in recognition of the dedication of Atascosa County Commissioner David Caballero.

A TRIBUTE TO FLORA DUNAIAANS,  
29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2005

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's women during the month of March. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District.

I would like to recognize an outstanding woman in my Congressional District, Ms. Flora Dunaiaans. For many years, Flora has brought an abounding spirit and energy to her service in the community. Those fortunate enough to meet and work with Flora instantly recognize her enthusiasm and passion for helping others, especially on behalf of the Armenian American community and the arts.

Born and raised in Pasadena, Flora Jane Calusdian married George Dunaiaans in 1958 and they had 2 daughters, Gigi and Suzie. In 1968 the Dunaiaans formed their own business, Western Medical Supply, Inc., where Flora is currently the Vice President and Secretary.

Flora is devoted to her church and community. For over 40 years, Flora has been active at St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church, serving as Trustee and member of the St. Gregory Auxiliary. On the occasion of the visit of His Holiness Vasken I, Catholicos of All Armenians to the United States in 1987, Flora and George donated to the new cathedral fund for the Diocese. In 1988 following the devastating earthquake in Armenia, the Dunaiaans arranged for donated emergency goods to be flown to Yerevan on Armand Hammer's private plane. She has been involved in many church-related projects throughout the Diocese, such as the Operation Karabakh Fund, Operation Winter Rescue and Operation Fuel, and continues to support various projects throughout the Diocese and the Holy See of Etchmiadzin.

Constantly finding ways to improve the social condition for children in Armenia, Flora co-founded Developmental Services for Armenia, a non-profit organization that helps schools, orphanages and short term projects. She also established and continues to support a dental clinic at the Nork Military Academy in Yerevan.

Flora and George are both founding members of the Consulate of the Republic of Armenia in Los Angeles. Flora is also a board member of the Armenian Assembly of America, the National Board of Team Armenia, and the Armenian Professional Society, where she and her husband have opened their home to raise funds for student scholarships for the last 25 years.

In addition to her extensive community service, Flora is a supporter of the Arpa Foundation for Film, Music and Art, the Pasadena Playhouse, and the New York Foundation for the Arts.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Flora Dunaiaans. The entire community joins me in thanking Flora for her success and continued efforts toward making the 29th Congressional District a more enjoyable place in which to live and work.

RECOGNIZING THE 1000TH VICTORY  
OF COACH RON POLK

**HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, on February 25, Coach Ron Polk achieved another impressive milestone at Mississippi State University. With the Bulldogs defeat of the Eastern Illinois Panthers in a 3-1 game, Coach Polk marked his 1000th win in 26 seasons at Mississippi State University.

Before a crowd of about 2,400 fans in the Polk-DeMent Stadium—which honors Coach Polk—the Bulldogs won their season opener and then celebrated this Mississippi State icon at a post game ceremony. Coach Polk, in his usual humble and humorous manner told reporters on scene, "It's just a number. All 1,000 wins means is that you haven't died yet and you've coached a long time. We have some really great players here but I haven't had time to reflect back on that success yet." Bulldog pitcher Alan Johnson said, "We didn't feel any added pressure. Coach Polk didn't mention it to us one time. However, we knew we were at 999, going for the big win. It feels good to win the first game but it also feels really good to be a part of Coach Polk's 1000th win."

Coach Polk is the all-time most winning coach in Southeastern Conference history and began the 2004 season as Number 12 among Division I's all-time coaching ranks. His record now stands at 1234-602-2 in 32 seasons as a collegiate head coach and 1000-490-2 in 26 seasons at Mississippi State. He has twice been honored as the National Coach of the Year (1973 and 1985) and was also honored by his peers as the recipient of the ABCA's Lefty Gomez Award. Coach Polk has earned his place in the American Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame (1995), the State of Mississippi and the Mississippi State University Sports Hall of Fame (1998), and the Georgia Southern University Hall of Fame (1990). He also rates as one of only three head coaches in the history of college baseball to guide three different schools to the NCAA College World Series.